

Amendments to the Specification

Please ADD the following new heading and paragraph at page 1, before the heading "**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**":

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a U.S. national stage application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371, based on International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/12281, having an international filing date of April 21, 2003. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/125,573, filed April 19, 2002.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 12, lines 3-6, with the following amended paragraph:

Ground up used tire rubber is available commercially and comes in different particle sizes. Perhaps preferred for the present invention is No. 4 tire granule (~~minus 10 mesh~~), preferably with the tire cord (referred to as "fluff") not removed. Both black and white tire crumb can be used.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 42, lines 3-11, with the following amended paragraph:

In the top deck boards 210, the core material is made of a mixture of 25.55 parts by weight (pbw) of a polyurethane foam system, 5.06 pbw of Huntsman Chemical 5371 EPS beads, and 69.39 pbw of No. 4 tire granule (~~minus 10 mesh~~) which has been magnetically separated, without removal of tire cord fluff. The polyurethane system consists of Baydur 645B isocyanate and Baydur 645A polyol. The EPS beads are substantially fully expanded prior to being mixed with the other ingredients. This core material has a specific gravity in the range of about 9.6 to 10.2 lbs/ft³.